REMARKS

Claims 1-24 are pending. Claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-10, 12-17, 20-22 and 24 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

102(b) Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 1, 3-4, 7-9, 11, 15, 17, 19 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Stoodley et al. ("Stoodley;" U.S. Patent No. 6,182,282). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in 1, 3-4, 7-9, 11, 15, 17, 19 and 23 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Stoodley.

Independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 recite either "locating a virtual table for a virtual function, said virtual table comprising a start address for said virtual function; ... creating an instruction for said virtual function, said instruction comprising a control transfer function that directs execution to instrumentation code; and rewriting said virtual table with a modified virtual table comprising an address for said instruction instead of said start address, wherein upon a call to said virtual function, said address for said instruction is loaded" or "means for locating a virtual table for a virtual function, said virtual table comprising a start address for said virtual function; ... means for creating an instruction for said virtual function, said instruction comprising a control transfer function that directs execution to instrumentation code; and means for rewriting said virtual table with a modified virtual table comprising an address for said instruction instead of said start address, wherein upon a call to said virtual function, said address for said instruction is loaded." Applicants respectfully submit that the limitations cited above are not shown or suggested by Stoodley.

Applicants understand Stoodley to only teach that a virtual function table includes entries, each entry including an address adjustment value and an address pointer that points to either an address adjustment program or an address for a virtual function. However, Applicants respectfully submit that Stoodley does not teach or suggest rewriting a virtual function table with a modified table that includes an address for an instruction that directs execution to instrumentation code, as recited in independent Claims 1, 9 and 17.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 is not shown or suggested by Stoodley. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1, 9 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is traversed, and that these claims are in condition for allowance. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 3-4, 7-8, 11, 15, 19 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is also traversed, as Claims 3-4, 7-8, 11, 15, 19 and 23 are dependent on allowable base claims and contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over Stoodley.

103(a) Rejections

The instant Office Action states that Claims 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stoodley in view of Hunt (U.S. Patent No. 6,263,491). The Applicants have reviewed the cited references and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Stoodley and Hunt, alone or in combination.

Claims 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 are dependent on either Claim 1, 9 or 17 and recite additional limitations. Hence, by demonstrating that Stoodley and Hunt, alone or in combination, do not show or suggest the limitations of Claims 1, 9 and 17, it is also demonstrated that Stoodley and Hunt (alone or in combination) do not show or suggest the additional limitations of Claims 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24.

As presented above, Applicants respectfully submit that independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 are not shown or suggested by Stoodley. Applicants respectfully submit that Hunt does not overcome the shortcomings of Stoodley.

Specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Hunt, alone or in combination with Stoodley, does not teach or suggest rewriting a virtual function table with a modified table that includes an address for an instruction that directs execution to instrumentation code, as recited in independent Claims 1, 9 and 17. More specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that Hunt, alone or in combination with Stoodley, does not teach or suggest "locating a virtual table for a virtual function, said virtual table comprising a start address for said virtual function; ... creating an instruction for said virtual function, said instruction comprising a control transfer function that directs execution to instrumentation code; and rewriting said virtual table with a modified virtual table comprising an address for said instruction instead of said start address, wherein upon a call to said virtual function, said address for said instruction is loaded" or "means for locating a virtual table for a virtual function, said virtual table comprising a start address for said virtual function; ... means for creating an instruction for said virtual function, said instruction comprising a control transfer function that directs execution to instrumentation code; and means

for rewriting said virtual table with a modified virtual table comprising an address for said instruction instead of said start address, wherein upon a call to said virtual function, said address for said instruction is loaded" as recited in independent Claims 1, 9 and 17.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the present claimed invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 9 and 17 is not shown or suggested by Stoodley and Hunt, alone or in combination. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed, as Claims 2, 4-6, 10, 12-14, 16, 18, 20-22 and 24 are dependent on allowable base claims and contain additional limitations that are patentably distinguishable over Stoodley and Hunt.

Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.

Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-24 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.
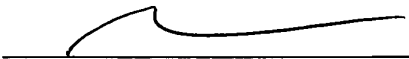
Applicants have reviewed the references cited but not relied upon (see the Notice of References Cited in the instant Office Action). Applicants did not find those references to show or suggest the present claimed invention.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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